Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to pre-empt regular programming to show an undocumented, demonstrably prejudicial documentary so close to the election betrays an outrageous disregard for the standards of election coverage and FCC guidelines.

Sinclair is obligated by law to serve the public interest, not special interests. Instead of covering real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter this company has chosen to use free public airways to promote their own political agenda.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to defend media ownership regulations, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to be taken very seriously by the public and the agencies that represent their interests. Media ownership is a privilege that should be earned and that may be forfeited by irresponsible behavior.